

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 6-8 and 12-17 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 6-8 and 12-14 have been amended. Claims 4-5 and 9-11 have been canceled. New claims 15-17 have been added. In view of the following, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If, after considering this response, the Examiner does not agree that all of the claims are allowable, then the Examiner is requested to schedule a teleconference with the Applicant's attorney to further the prosecution of the application.

Rejection of claims 1-3, 6 and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koch (US 6,153,946) in view of Coglitore (US 2004/0228087)

Claims 1 and 13

Claims 1 and 13, as amended, recite each power source having a capacity less than each load.

For example, referring, *e.g.*, to paragraphs 32-34 and 38 and FIGS. 3-5 and 9 of the present application, each power source has a capacity less than each load. Because each load is connected to multiple power sources having a collective capacity greater than the load, if any one source fails, each load remains fully powered. As is well-known in the art, lower-capacity power sources are more efficient and cheaper to manufacture than higher-capacity power sources. Furthermore, lower-capacity power sources are significantly smaller than higher-capacity power sources, so that even having an additional lower-capacity power source can take up less space than having only higher-capacity power sources. As a result, power distribution systems utilizing lower-capacity power sources can be smaller, more efficient, and cheaper to manufacture than power distribution systems utilizing higher-capacity power sources.

Koch, on the other hand, does not teach each power source having a capacity less than each load. Instead, Koch teaches devices 14, 16, 18 (FIG. 1) each having both a device circuit and a power supply. Because each device 14, 16, 18 is a separate device (and because redundant power supply 12 is only redundant), by definition each power supply 22, 24, 26 must have a capacity at least equal to each corresponding device circuit 28, 30, 32 (col. 5, lines 10-14). Similarly, Koch teaches

devices 88, 90, 92 (FIG. 3) each having both a device circuit and a power supply. Because each device 88, 90, 92 is a separate device (and because there is no redundant power supply), by definition each power supply must have a capacity greater than each corresponding device circuit (col. 7, line 49 – col. 8, line 15). However, all this has nothing to do with power distribution systems utilizing lower-capacity power sources in order to be smaller, more efficient, and cheaper to manufacture. In fact, after reviewing Koch in its entirety, the Applicant's attorney is unable to find any mention of each power source having a capacity less than each load.

Similarly, Coglitore does not teach each power source having a capacity less than each load. Instead, Coglitore teaches a computer rack 2 having a power supply unit 4 installed in the top shelf of the rack to improve heat dissipation. However, this has nothing to do with power distribution systems utilizing lower-capacity power sources in order to be smaller, more efficient, and cheaper to manufacture. In fact, after reviewing Coglitore in its entirety, the Applicant's attorney is unable to find any mention of each power source having a capacity less than each load.

Therefore, the combination of Koch and Coglitore does not satisfy the limitations of claim 1.

Claims 2-3, 6 and 12

Claims 2-3, 6 and 12 are patentable by virtue of their dependencies from independent claim 1.

Claim 14

Claim 14, as amended, is patentable for reasons similar to those recited above in support of the patentability of claims 1 and 13.

Rejection of claims 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koch in view of Coglitore and further in view of Slade (US 5,861,684)

Claims 7-8 are patentable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1.

Provisional double-patenting rejection of claims 1-2, 6-8 and 12-14

The Applicant's attorney notes the Examiner's provisional double-patenting rejection of claims 1-2, 6-8 and 12-14 and will respond to this rejection in the appropriate manner at such time as the allegedly conflicting claims are allowed.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks, claims 1-3, 6-8 and 12-17 are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

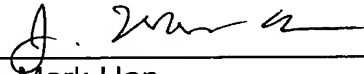
In the event additional fees are due as a result of this amendment, you are hereby authorized to charge such payment to Deposit Account No. 07-1897.

If, after considering this response, the Examiner does not agree that all of the claims are allowable, then it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the Applicant's attorney at (425) 455-5575.

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Respectfully submitted,

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